

TERM 1 2018

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL – LIA TEDESCO

It gives me great pleasure to welcome all members of the school community to the 2018 school year. I particularly wish to welcome students and parents who have joined the school for the first time.

We have commenced the year with very strong enrolment numbers: more than 1800 students at this point in time; and still enrolling!

We would like to congratulate our year 12 students who studied either a SACE or an International Baccalaureate language course last year.

299 students in total completed a SACE Stage 2 language with us; with 84% of them achieving an A or B grade:

- 43% achieved an A
- 41% achieved a B

The following 8 students deserve a special mention for receiving an A+ with merit, and will be presented with Merit Certificates at Government House on Tuesday 6th February:

- Zihong Qu: German Beginners
- Rishun Sakai: Japanese Continuers
- Anvi Rawat: Korean Beginners
- Foroutan Derakhshanian: Persian Background
- Toby Kewell: Spanish Beginners
- Daniela Steinmann: Spanish Continuers
- Danae Bettison Estrella: Spanish Continuers
- Cindy Kieu: Vietnamese Continuers

Last year there were also 37 year 12 students who studied an IB language course with us. 9 of them achieved a perfect score of 7 (24.3%); and

another 17 achieved a near perfect score of 6, making it more than 70% of the total cohort with a mark of 6 or 7. We would like to congratulate the following students who achieved a perfect score of 7 and whose achievements will be acknowledged at a ceremony at the Adelaide Town Hall on Monday 5th February:

- Idris Kellerman Williams: German B HL
- Jason Koh: Indonesian AB Initio
- Thomas Koh: Indonesian AB Initio
- Ema Dennis: Japanese B SL
- Vi-Seth Bak: Spanish AB Initio
- Medhir Kumawat: Spanish AB Initio
- Anna Tang: Spanish AB Initio
- Francesca Catabran: Spanish AB Initio
- Alejandra Quinteros Thais: Spanish B HL

PRE-SERVICE TEACHERS

We welcome the following pre-service teachers from Flinders University, who will be with us one day a week until mid Term 2:

- Ben Rogoznica – Italian
- Denielle Patullo – French and Spanish

INDONESIAN SISTER SCHOOL

Our Principal, Lia Tedesco, visited our sister school, the Australian Independent School (AIS), Indonesia, for 5 days in January. The school has 2 campuses in Jakarta and 1 in Bali. Lia met all the staff at their annual conference which was held at the senior school campus in Jakarta. We look forward to engaging in a number of joint activities that will be part of our sister school relationship, including student class communications and teacher exchanges. We are currently developing a professional learning program for their teachers of Indonesian when they visit us later this year.

SPEECH NIGHT

At our speech night at the end of last year, one of our students, Verity Lopresti-Zotti, enthralled the audience by telling us about her Auslan learning experience this year. Her speech is reproduced here, with her kind permission:



Verity Lopresti-Zotti at the School of Languages Celebration of Achievement, Bonython Hall, 28th November, 2017.

Good evening, my name is Verity and tonight I would like to talk to you about my experience learning Auslan at the School of Languages.

Ever since I was taught the Auslan alphabet by a primary school friend when I was little, I was fascinated by the fact there was a way to communicate across the classroom without getting told off for speaking. It made me question, how this 'secret language' that a few friends and I would use to tell jokes, could actually be a complex first language for approximately 30,000 Australians.

Fast-forward seven years to 2017 when the first opportunity to take up Auslan, at my age, was presented at the School of Languages. Driven by my desire to discover more about this language I started classes and within the first few lessons, my inquiries were being answered. As a hearing person, I assumed that Auslan was simply signed English and there was a sign for every English word, which I know now is false. Although only recognised as a language in the early 1990's, Auslan has its own sentence structure, its own grammar and its own idiomatic expressions. As a part of its grammar it has: directional verbs, signs with multiple meanings, sign modification, iconicity, negation and affirmation, and no conjugations to learn.

My biggest fear starting Auslan was that it would be too difficult, or that I might look silly, or that I wouldn't be able to keep up, but I needn't have worried. Maybe it was because I had the amazing Ms. Lorraine Ferguson and Ms. Sophia Borick as my teachers, but I found it very logical and addictive. You only need to sign the words necessary to communicate your message, and because you are using your hands, muscle memory comes into play when you need to remember signs. After my first lesson, I could have a basic conversation, maybe a slow one, but a conversation nonetheless. I don't have another word to describe it, Auslan is just really fun to learn.

I was also interested to discover the value of Auslan to Deaf culture, and quickly learnt they go hand in hand. Not all deaf persons choose to communicate via Auslan. Those who do, are part of this close and warm community of people who are proud of their language and their culture. I was surprised at how incredibly close the Australian Deaf Community is, and how everyone seems to know everyone. I was also surprised to find out that South Australia has the largest population of Deaf persons in all of Australia. It made me wonder why we don't teach it in every school. Even just the basics, enough to communicate in basic conversation. Auslan is only taught in a few primary schools, and was only offered at a high school level for Deaf persons, unless of course you go to TAFE. That is why I believe it is incredible that the School of Languages now offers Auslan. I hope that in the future there will be more opportunities for hearing people to learn this beautiful and addictive language, because through education we can make the Australian Deaf Community less of a minority. After all, the only reason they are considered a minority is because of hearing people's lack of language skills in Auslan.

This year, learning Auslan has taught me, not only how to introduce myself or order something at a restaurant, but more so the importance of communication and community. It has helped me see a culture that was right in front of my eyes. I am excited to immerse myself further into the language and I would strongly encourage everyone to try it.

Thankyou so much.

26 LANGUAGES OFFERED IN 2018

This year the school is offering classes in:

Afrikaans*	Khmer*
Arabic	Kirundi
Auslan*	Korean*
Bosnian	Nepali
Chinese*	Persian
Croatian	Pitjantjatjara
Dinka	Polish*
French*	Portuguese
German	Punjabi
Hindi*	Serbian
Indonesian*	Spanish*
Italian*	Swahili
Japanese*	Vietnamese*

*The Languages marked with an asterisk are available at primary and secondary levels.

Classes are held in 24 different school locations around the metropolitan area:

- Adelaide High School
- Alberton Primary School
- Belair Primary School
- Burnside Primary School
- Colonel Light Gardens Primary School
- Fulham North Primary School
- Glenunga International High School
- Lockleys North Primary School
- Magill Primary School
- Mitcham Girls High School
- Nairne Primary School
- Paralowie School
- Playford International College
- Plympton International R – 12 School
- Prospect Primary School
- Roma Mitchell Secondary College
- Salisbury East High School
- School of Languages
- St John Bosco School
- Thomas More College
- Torrens Valley Christian School
- Walkerville Primary School
- Westminster School
- Woodside Primary School

Our school timetable is available on our website at www.schooloflanguages.sa.edu.au

PARENT/CAREGIVER INFORMATION SESSIONS

We are holding a number of parent information sessions at various Teaching Centres over the next few weeks. If you are keen to find out more about the school, and to meet the Principal, you are very welcome to attend whichever one is most convenient for you. There is no need to RSVP.

- **Fulham North Primary School:** Monday 12th February, 4:15 – 5:00pm
- **Belair Primary School:** Tuesday 13th February, 4:15 – 5:00pm
- **Glenunga International High School:** Tuesday 13th February, 6:45 – 7:45pm
- **Alberton Primary School:** Wednesday 14th February, 3:30 – 4:15pm
- **Thomas More College:** Wednesday 14th February, 5:15 – 6:00pm
- **Walkerville Primary School:** Thursday 15th February, 4:30 – 5:15pm
- **School of Languages:** Thursday 15th February, 6:30 – 7:30pm
- **School of Languages:** Saturday 17th February, 11:15am – 12:00pm
- **Nairne Primary School:** Monday 19th February, 4:15 – 5:00pm
- **Torrens Valley Christian School:** Tuesday 20th February, 4:30 – 5:15pm

TERM 1 CLASS CANCELLATIONS

Please note the following class cancellations, due to public holidays:

- **Monday 12th March** – all classes cancelled
- **Good Friday – Friday 30th March** – school cancelled
- **Easter Saturday – Saturday 31st March** – all classes cancelled
- **Easter Monday - Monday 2nd April** – all classes cancelled

TERM 1 CLASS RELOCATIONS

Please note the following class relocations:

- **Wednesday 21st February** – all AHS classes relocated to School of Languages
- **Wednesday 21st March** – all AHS classes relocated to School of Languages

SCHOOL COUNCIL

In 2018, the Annual General Meeting of the School Council will be held on **Tuesday 20th March, at 7pm**, at the School of Languages at 255 Torrens Rd, West Croydon. Our guest speaker will be Andrew Scrimgeour, president of the Modern Language Teachers Association of South Australia, whose topic will be:

“Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Australia and some considerations for learning languages in schools.”

Parent representatives are appointed for a two year period; and student and staff representatives are appointed for a one year period. We will have a number of parent vacancies in 2018, and you are invited to attend the AGM and consider nominating, to support the school through this important committee. For further information do not hesitate to contact the Principal.

INDONESIAN SISTER SCHOOL

Our Principal, Lia Tedesco, visited our sister school, the Australian Independent School (AIS), Indonesia, for 5 days in January. The school has 2 campuses in Jakarta and 1 in Bali. Lia met all the staff at their annual conference which was held at the senior school campus in Jakarta. We look forward to engaging in a number of joint activities that will be part of our sister school relationship, including student class communications and teacher exchanges. We are currently developing a professional learning program for their teachers of Indonesian when they visit us later this year.

2018 STUDY TOURS

In April this year 16 students will be travelling to Spain and 11 to Japan with School of Languages study tours. The Spanish Study Tour will take place in Salamanca and Granada and the Japanese tour will take place in Tokyo, Kyoto and Hiroshima. This will be the School of Languages' 1st study tour to Japan and 3rd to Spain.

Study Tours to China, Korea and Japan have also been planned for October, with the China tour again breaking new ground for the School of Languages.

Also in the pipeline for the School of Languages this year is a December tour of Cambodia. We are planning to send a team to the Cambodian 'Habitat for Humanity' project. This tour will be offered to all of School of Languages year 12 students regardless of the language they have studied with us, and also to all School of Languages staff.

Also, keep an eye out for the April 2019 study tours to Spain, Italy and New Caledonia as the information packs will be made available in the middle of term 1 this year.

DECD LANGUAGES STRATEGY

DECD recently launched its Languages Strategy for 2018 – 2021. This Strategy recognises the importance of language learning for students across all year levels; and therefore aims to increase access and participation in language learning, as well as improve the quality of provision in South Australian government schools. The Strategy outlines four inter-related priority areas; with each priority area containing a range of actions that together will lead to improvement. The four priority areas are:

- Improve access and participation in language learning across all levels of schooling
- Support teachers and leaders to provide high-quality languages education
- Increase the supply of qualified teachers of languages
- Promote the value of language learning to the broader school community

LEARN ITALIAN!

The Dante Alighieri Society is once again offering classes of Italian for adult beginners or for those who wish to improve their Italian. They will be holding an Information Evening where you can find out more.

When? **Friday 16th February 2018 at 6.00pm**

Where? **262 Carrington St, Adelaide 5000**

Please **RSVP** via email: info@ladantesa.com

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES STAFF 2018

Leadership Team:

Principal:	Lia Tedesco
Assistant Principals:	
- Teaching & Learning	Adriana Basic
- Student & Staff Services	Anne Reuter
Coordinators:	Ben Anderson
	Andrea Corston
	Lynn Davis
	Sonia Mattiazzo
	Halina Pietrzak
	Carly Vause
Business Manager:	Sue Wilson

Teaching Staff:

Afrikaans:	Marilene de Wit
Arabic:	Salwa Tawadrous
Auslan	Sophia Borick, Dr Donovan Cresdee,
Bosnian:	Muhidin Durmanovic
Chinese:	Lynn Davis, Isabel Feng, Yijun Gao, Muy Jhou Moo, Min Mu, Barb Smith, Hong Tian, Karen Wang, Shohret Yusoph
Croatian:	Branimir Cirjak
Dinka:	Kuol Baak, Peter Deng
French:	Craig Bowyer, Bibbiana DePasquale, Jenny Ditillo, Elizabeth Entraigues, Colette Merckel, Mary Smallwood, Teresa Vaccaro, Carly Vause, Caroline Zavahir-Burlin
German:	Ben Anderson, Katrina Berry, Mechthild Heusel-Timmins, Anne Reuter
Hindi:	Tajinder Kaur, Amita Malhotra
Indonesian:	Andrea Corston, Dianne Dahim, Daniel Micklem, Ellis Robb
Italian:	Bibbiana DePasquale, Jenny Ditillo, Anna Faruggia, Lucia Gentilcore, Caterina Strangio, Gosia Sztolc, Teresa Vaccaro
Japanese:	Eri Brown, Hisako Diggins, Kelly Greatrex, Chizuru Lock, Kerry Ridley
Kaurna:	Kira Bain (Semester 2)
Khmer:	Sokho Chau, Chimao Kang, Yok Le Ly, Chharida Mann, Lean Hor So, Rany Thach
Kirundi	Andre Ntibesha
Korean:	Parky Anderson, Yong Mi Muirhead
Nepali:	Jai Bhandari, Lok Poudyel
Persian:	Amir Alikhani, Marjan Sobhani
Pitjantjatjara:	Greg Wilson
Polish:	Joanna Burnat, Halina Pietrzak
Portuguese:	Marina Ribeiro de Almeida
Punjabi:	Satwinder Kaur
Serbian:	Mia Uzelac
Spanish:	Parky Anderson, Noelia Carvajal Balbin, Lucia Gentilcore, Flor Groenen, Yox Ortiz Matos, Lorena Pineda Gonzalez, Patricia Rosales, Carmen Vasquez
Swahili:	Andre Ntibesha
Vietnamese:	Minh Dang, Phuong Ngo

Support Staff:

Office Staff:	Thorl Chea, Jenny Ivchenko, Steve Milazzo
IT Technician:	Rita Evdokiou

KEY DATES FOR TERM 1

WEEK 2:

Classes begin in all centres (week beginning Monday 5th February)

IB Award Ceremony, Adelaide Town Hall, **Monday 5th February**
SACE Merit Ceremony at Government House, **Tuesday 6th February**

WEEK 3:

Parent/caregiver information sessions:

- **Fulham North Primary School:** Monday 12th February, 4:15 – 5:00pm
 - **Belair Primary School:** Tuesday 13th February, 4:15 – 5:00pm
- **Glenunga International High School:** Tuesday 13th February, 6:45 – 7:45pm (Secondary Students)
 - **Alberton Primary School:** Wednesday 14th February, 3:30 – 4:15pm
 - **Thomas More College:** Wednesday 14th February, 5:15 – 6:00pm
 - **Walkerville Primary School:** Thursday 15th February, 4:30 – 5:15pm
- **School of Languages:** Thursday 15th February, 6:30 – 7:30pm (Secondary Students)
 - **School of Languages:** Saturday 17th February, 11:15am – 12:00pm

WEEK 4:

Parent/caregiver information sessions:

- **Nairne Primary School:** Monday 19th February, 4:15 – 5:00pm
- **Torrens Valley Christian School:** Tuesday 20th February, 4:30 – 5:15pm

School Council meeting – **Tuesday, 20th February, 7pm**

Wednesday 21st February: all AHS classes relocated to School of Languages

WEEK 7:

Monday 12th March – Public holiday – classes cancelled

WEEK 8:

School Council AGM – **Tuesday 20th March, 7pm**

Wednesday 21st March: all AHS classes relocated to School of Languages

WEEK 9:

Good Friday – Friday 30th March – school cancelled
Easter Saturday – Saturday 31st March – classes cancelled

WEEK 10:

Easter Monday - Monday 2nd April – classes cancelled
Friday 6th April – Study Tour to Spain departs

WEEK 11:

Friday 13th April – Study Tour to Japan departs
Last day of lessons – Saturday 14^h April

TERM 1 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS: Sunday 15th April – Sunday 29th April

Term 1 reports and Term 2 newsletter distributed during school holidays.

Friday 27th April – Study Tour returns from Japan

Saturday 28th April – Study Tours returns from Spain.

Term 2 commences Monday 30th April